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ROLLINS COLLEGE.

Rollins College, the oldest institution of higher learning in Florida, will begin its twenty-ninth year of work on Wednesday, October 1. Last year was in many respects the most prosperous and satisfactory in the history of the college, and it is expected that the coming year will be even more so.

Under the care of Treasurer W. R. O'Neal and Superintendent B. W. Stone, the campus and buildings have been put in prime condition. Among other things, the fine pipe organ in the auditorium has been thoroughly overhauled and put in order for the devotional and musical part of the college life. Rollins is fortunate in having a campus of remarkable beauty, shaded by a multitude of water oaks and other trees, and sloping sharply to the shores of beautiful Lake Virginia, and its dozen buildings are attractive, convenient, and well-equipped in an unusual degree. The material equipment of the class rooms and laboratories has been considerably increased; an additional bench has been installed in the chemistry laboratory to take care of the increased classes which are expected, and new blackboards and apparatus have also been ordered.

Letters received from various members of the faculty report them in good health, and looking forward with pleasure to taking up the work of the new year. President and Mrs. Blackman, after spending some weeks in the mountains of western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee and in New York and Boston, are now at Dr. Blackman's birthplace in central New York. Dean Enyart is at his summer home on the Atlantic coast, at Newburyport, Mass. Mrs. Ferguson, Dean of Women, is preparing herself for still better work in the class-room by pursuing courses in the Summer School

of Harvard University. Dr. Hyde, Professor of Latin, is looking after his fine citrus grove in Avon Park. Prof. and Mrs. Powers are in Europe in charge of a party of Rollins students and former students. Prof. and Mrs. Palmer are with Prof. Palmer's parents in New Haven, Conn. Prof. and Mrs. Berkeley Blackman remain in Winter Park, where Prof. Blackman is developing a live-stock farm which he acquired last year. Prof. Lenhart is likewise spending the summer in Florida, most of the time with his sister at Mount Dora. Prof. and Mrs. Pope are at Bear River, Nova Scotia, where Prof. Pope is studying under a distinguished former singer of the Metropolitan Opera House. Miss Wilkins is at her home in Bradford, Pa., and Miss Wilde at Amsterdam, N. Y. Miss Deaderick is at her home in Charleston, W. Va., and writes that she is full of plans for plays for the coming year. Miss Brebner has spent the summer in England and Holland, and hopes to return to her work in Rollins in the fall. Miss Meriwether has been studying in Boston. Miss Daniel has spent the summer with her family in Iowa. Fortunately there will be no change in the teaching force next year.

Attention is called to the fact that in order to show their interest in the work of the Florida High Schools, and to encourage the graduates of these schools to pursue a college course, and to do this within their own State, the Trustees of Rollins College have decided to offer for the present free tuition to all graduates of such Florida High Schools as maintain a satisfactory four-year course. In case any such student is not fully prepared to enter the Freshman Class of the College, he may complete his work in the Academy without charge for tuition. Students availing themselves of this opportunity will be expected to present testimonials of high character and ability from the principals of the schools in which they have studied. This offer is made ONLY to the graduates of the High Schools of this State.

THE PRINTING OF THE CATALOGUE.

NOTE—The fact that the Rollins catalogue was printed outside of Florida occasioned editorial criticism of the college management, originating in a Sanford paper, and taken up by several other papers throughout the state. The following letter was sent to the

Tampa Tribune in reply to such a criticism.

To the Editor of the Tribune: My attention has been called to an editorial in a recent number of the Tribune, quoting with approval a sharp criticism upon the management of Rollins College which appeared in the Sanford Herald for having given the printing of the last college catalogue to an Alabama concern. I am sure you will give me space for an explanation.

I heartily agree with you that the people of Florida should patronize home industries. This is the fixed policy of Rollins college. When prices and quality are substantially equal, we buy in Winter Park first of all; then in Orlando, our nearest neighbor; then in Sanford or other Florida cities; and then finally, and only if necessary, in other states. During the past year we have given hundreds of dollars' worth of work to Orlando printers for bulletins, programs, etc., and to a Sanford farmer for vegetables. I am as loyal a Floridian as are the editors of the Tribune or Herald; for more than a quarter of a century I have paid taxes in the state, and during half of that time in three different counties. I believe that our people should help one another in every possible way.

Moreover, I and my associates at Rollins have secured by solicitation during the last twenty-eight years considerably over three-quarters of a million dollars in cash from the residents of other states as a free gift to the cause of education in Florida. The Florida boy or girl who attends Rollins pays less than one-fifth of the actual cost of his education, the other four-fifths being provided for by our endowment fund, and by donations to current expenses made by friends in other states. Have we not shown our love for Florida and our loyalty to its highest interests? Have we not deserved the sympathetic and appreciative treatment which the press of the state has always hitherto shown us? Ought the college to be treated in just the same way as one would treat a commercial, a money-making, concern?

As to the printing of the catalogue. Up to two years ago, the catalogue was always printed in Orlando. At that time the printers of Orlando declined to undertake the job, as certain fonts of type were required which they did not have. I therefore very reluctantly gave the work to another office in Florida, one of the best equipped in the state. This year the work was offered again to the same



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office, but the price asked was so much in excess of that made by an Alabama concern that I felt obliged to accept the lower offer. I earnestly hope that it will not seem necessary to do this in coming years.

Meanwhile, it should not be forgotten that the college advertises at regular rates in about a score of newspapers in South Florida every summer, thus reciprocating to the best of our ability the very generous treatment which the editors of these papers have always accorded us.

Finally, let me call your attention to the fact that probably four-fifths of all the young people of Florida who attend college are sent out of the state, as are a large majority of those who go away from home to preparatory and boarding schools. In most cases, these outside colleges and schools are no better in equipment and standards of scholarship than are Rollins and other Florida institutions. I happen to know a good many printers—a good many newspaper editors and publishers—who are thus sending their children to schools beyond the limits of their state. Will not the Tribune and the Herald lead in a crusade for the educating of Florida children in Florida schools.

W. F. BLACKMAN,

President of Rollins College.